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NO. III.

Description of Eleven New Species of North American Insects.
By N. M. Hentz, Professor of Modern Languages in the
University of North Carolina.—Read November 2d, 1827.

CICINDELA.

1. *C. denticulata*. Bright green; mandibles slender, longer than the head; elytra polished, with a subsutural series of impressed punctures, a subhumeral dot, intermediate triangular spot and terminal lunule white; pectus, postpectus, and front in the male, hairy.

Length half an inch.

Inhabits Massachusetts.

From *C. 6-guttata* this species may be easily distinguished by its elongated mandibles, its pectus and postpectus very hairy, and the head also, in the male. The punctures on the elytra of this species are exceedingly minute and distant, whilst they are deep in *C. 6-guttata*. To Dr T. W. Harris I am indebted for this and the next species. That gentleman, whose knowledge and labours are not less remarkable than his disinterestedness, has furnished me also with the following

Varieties.

α —Elytra purplish blue; spots as in the species.

β —Anterior dot of the elytra wanting.

γ—Anterior dot wanting; triangular spot reduced to a transverse line; posterior lunule interrupted so as to form a fourth spot.

δ—Two anterior spots wanting.

ε—All the spots wanting except the terminal lunule which is merely an abbreviated transverse line.

ζ—All the spots wanting and terminal lunule obsolete.

2. *C. hæmorrhoidalis*. Hairy, dull cupreous or purple; elytra with a humeral dot, a round dot behind, a curved band, two dots behind, and a terminal lunule whitish. Deep purple beneath; venter ferruginous.

Length 9-20ths of an inch.

Inhabits Massachusetts.

This beautiful little insect, also communicated to me by my excellent friend Dr Harris, is very remarkable for its numerous markings, in all twelve, on the elytra. The head and thorax are marked with purple and green, the thighs are green, and the sides of the thorax, pectus and postpectus are hairy.

3. *C. splendida*. Bright green; disk of the elytra crimson or purple, with a submarginal subtriangular transverse line near the middle, and a terminal transverse line; whole margin green.

Length 6-10ths of an inch.

Inhabits North Carolina. Swarming in April.

This species is closely related to *C. marginalis* of Fab. *C. purpurea* of Olivier, and chiefly so to the variety β of Mr Say; but several reasons have induced me to consider it as a distinct species. The thorax of *C. marginalis* is sensibly transverse, in this species it is less so, and with the head entirely bright green: *C. marginalis* is quite hairy, this is slightly so. The former inhabits usually shady places near or in the

grass; *C. splendida* is always found on barren dry clay or sand. The middle line is sometimes wanting, sometimes the terminal one is obsolete; and I have observed two specimens with a humeral whitish spot.

LEBIA.

4. *L. grandis*. Ferruginous; elytra purple, venter piceous; thorax remarkably transverse, posterior angles sharp, nearly rectangular.

Length rather more than 9-20ths of an inch.

Inhabits North Carolina.

The remarkable size of this species will be sufficient to distinguish it from *L. atriventris*, Say, which it very much resembles; but it is nearly twice as large, being, I believe, enormous for this genus. The head is darker than the thorax, and the striæ of the elytra are deeper than in *L. atriventris*. I have never seen but two specimens, found at night, attracted by the light.

5. *L. borea*. Head dark green; disk of the thorax, tarsi, lower ends of the tibia, knees, and anterior thighs, piceous; elytra green, substriate; postpectus and venter ferruginous.

Length rather more than 5-20ths of an inch.

Inhabits Massachusetts.

This insect cannot be mistaken for *L. tricolor* of Mr Say. The striæ of the elytra cannot be seen by the naked eye, but with a lens they appear to be punctured and regular, though superficial. The margin of the thorax is ferruginous; the middle part of the tibia and upper part of the two posterior pairs of thighs are testaceous. The three first joints of the antennæ are ferruginous, darkening upwards, the rest are black.

6. *L. solea*. Testaceous; elytra with deep impunctured striæ, a common sutural band narrower near the middle, not reaching the apex, to which it is contiguous on each side, with a submarginal band which tapers towards the humerus.

Length hardly a quarter of an inch.

Inhabits Massachusetts.

This insect is quite distinct from *L. vittata*, which is larger and differs from this in many respects. I cannot see that the interstice between the black bands has ever been white, as no trace remains of that colour as in *L. vittata*. The body and feet are testaceous; the head bordering on the rufous; the antennæ are dusky with paler base. The interstitial lines on the elytra are convex, which is not the case with *L. vittata*.

MELOLONTHA.

7. *M. porcina*. Densely covered with short yellow hair; clypeus emarginate; head piceous or black with a few hairs; antennæ and legs ferruginous; thorax punctured, very hairy, with a longitudinal black line formed by the absence of hair; elytra castaneous, pubescent.

Length little more than one inch.

Inhabits Massachusetts.

This must be a rare insect, as I never saw but one specimen, and it was new to my friend Dr Harris; the head and thorax are piceous or blackish, but the thorax is covered with so much yellow hair, that it gives it a pale greenish appearance. The hair which covers the insect is short except on the margin of the elytra and postpectus, where it is long.

8. *M. variolosa*. Covered with short white hair; clypeus subquadrate, broader at tip, entire, ferruginous; antennæ ferruginous, clava very long, seven laminæ; thorax blackish with three obsolete longitudinal impressed lines obsoletely marked

with white hair; elytra dark castaneous, with suture, humeral line, and irregular spots, and the disk white; postpectus with thick long yellow hair.

Length very little smaller than the preceding.

Inhabits Massachusetts.

This cannot be referred to *Melolontha 10-lineata* of Mr Say, which has its clypeus emarginate, and differs from it in other respects; both are somewhat related to *M. fullo* of Europe. I never saw but two specimens.

PYROCHROA.

9. *P. ? infumata*. Black, hairy; head deep black, polished; antennæ and palpi ferruginous at base; thorax ferruginous, polished; disk black; elytra hairy, punctured.

Length nearly 3-10ths of an inch.

Inhabits Massachusetts.

10. *P. ? elegans*. Slightly hairy; head deep black, polished; thorax, palpi and legs bright yellow, polished; elytra blue black, punctured, with a terminal yellow spot, polished, raised and impunctured.

Length not quite 3-10ths of an inch.

Inhabits Massachusetts.

The two last insects answer well to the characters of *Pyrochroa* as given by Latreille and Lamarck, and cannot be referred to any other genus mentioned in the books. The palpi in both have their last joint larger, subsecuriform. The penultimate article of the tarsi is remarkably bifid. Their antennæ have subcylindrical joints, and are inserted into a groove of the eye.

NEMOGNATHA.

11. *N. nemorensis*. Black, hairy; mouth and thorax ferruginous, with three basal impressions black; elytra punctured, substriate; suture raised.

Length 3-10ths of an inch.

Inhabits the woods of North Carolina.

This interesting insect is probably rare, for I never saw but one specimen, found in May. The second joint of the antennæ is shorter than the first and the third; and all the joints are very hairy. The maxillæ which are usually bent under are nearly as long as the antennæ.

In the above descriptions it is not unimportant to observe that Dr T. W. Harris has found in the vicinity of Boston *Cicindela formosa*, which Mr Say described from specimens brought from the Missouri by Mr Nuttal. He and I have also found there *Clytus speciosus*, described by Mr Say, in the Appendix to Long's Expedition of 1823, as discovered on the banks of the Wisconsin, Prairie du Chien. I have seen in North Carolina a number of insects which he had found only in the west.

See Errata at end of vol.

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